

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SCCT-01 SY-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIE-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 SCS-03

SCA-01 /068 W

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O R 010240Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 2798

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 4552

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC (SMITH, HUNTER)

SUBJ: KIDNAPPED AMERICANS

REF: STATE 127473

1. AFTER DEVLIN'S TALK WITH PRESIDENT MOBUTU MAY 31
AT BANDO-LITI AND MY FOLLOW-UP MEETING CONCLUDED 1:30 AM
JUNE 1 WITH FOREIGN MINISTER BULA, SITUATION IS ESSENTIALLY
AS FOLLOWS:

(A) WE HAVE PRESIDENT'S ASSURANCE THAT GOZ WILL NOT ACT
TO ENDANGER LIVES OF STUDENTS.

(B) PRESIDENT IS OPPOSED TO PUBLIC STATEMENT BY GOZ AND,
GIVEN KNOWLEDGE OF THIS FACT, I DID NOT DISCUSS MATTER
FURTHER WITH FOREIGN MINISTER.

(C) WE ARE AWAITING CONSIDERED GOZ REPLY TO PROPOSAL
THAT FATHER VAGNI SERVE AS INTERMEDIARY. MOBUTU TOLD
DEVLIN HE HAD TO THINK IT OVER AND ASKED THAT I BRIEF
BULA IN DETAIL SO THAT BULA COULD COMMUNICATE HIS

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RECOMMENDATION TO PRESIDENT BY RADIO TOMORROW. BULA

SAYS HE WILL TRY TO GET DECISION TOMORROW BUT BOTH HE
AND PRESIDENT INTIMATED DECISION MIGHT NOT BE MADE BEFORE
PRESIDENT'S RETURN KINSHASA EXPECTED SOMETIME MONDAY, JUNE 2.
IN CIRCUMSTANCES I GAVE BULA MY WORD THAT USG WOULD NOT
RPT NOT BEGIN IMPLEMENTATION PLAN. VAGNI SHOULD BE SO
ADVISED AND URGED, IF AT ALL POSSIBLE, TO DALAY HIS
DEPARTURE FROM BUJUMBURA UNTIL WE HAVE DECISION. I NOTE
POSSIBILITY OF VAGNI DELAY WAS SUGGESTED PARA 1 REFTTEL.

2. FOLLOWING SEPTTEL WILL GIVE MORE DETAIL.

3. IT IS IMPERATIVE IN IMY JUDGMENT THAT THERE BE NO
LEAKS TO PRESS. FOREIGN MINISTER EARLY IN OUR DISCUSSION
PROTESTED STORIES ALLEGING GOZ LACK OF COOPERATION, BUT
DID NOT LABOR POINT WHEN I SAID HE MUST ALSO BE AWARE
OF DEPARTMENT'S DENIAL AND AMBASSADOR CARTER'S AFFIRMATION
THAT GOZ WAS COOPERATING.
HINTON

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